

**College Park Neighborhood Stabilization and Quality of Life Work Group**  
**Community Building Task Force – Draft Outline of Potential Strategies**  
April 25, 2013

The Community Building Task Force worked over the past several months to develop a number of potential strategies for the various stakeholders and policy makers to consider. This is an interim and draft document that outlines ideas raised by committee members and members of the public at the previous public forum held on January 29, 2013, and it is meant to give the public an opportunity to provide input on these ideas and potential strategies.

It is important to note that these are not “recommendations” of the committee- the committee was asked to compile all of the suggestions and not to eliminate any from consideration at this time. There are various challenges to each suggested strategy, and the Task Force’s final report will discuss pros and cons as well as challenges for each strategy.

The Task Force was informed by the various groups represented on the Task Force as well as the Public Testimony provided on January 29, 2013. There is a broad and general recognition that a new course of action is required by all stakeholders to address the community’s concerns and that the status quo is unacceptable.

The items that the task force discussed were not contentious; community building inherently lends itself agreeable solutions.

The following are solutions to the goals of community building, the primary focus on making our community one which everyone can be proud of.

**1. Goal: Coordinate Block Parties to Encourage Neighbors to Get to Know Each Other**

Action Required: Find most appropriate areas in the city, coordinate neighbors to work together to organize the events. Establish best practices to recommend to new blocks.

**2. Goal: Creative Trash Cans**

Action Required: Public Works should determine the most useful locations for additional trash cans. They should then work with the university to design decorative Maryland-themed Trash Cans.

**3. Goal: Create Greek Team Captains/Student Service Corps**

Action Required: Have Greek organizations determine who should be team captain for each block. Organize team captains to educate and ensure students are doing what they should to be good neighbors. Work with Jackie to incorporate students into Student Service Corps.

**4. Goal: Create Citizen Service Corps**

Action Required: Determine demand for service in the city. Coordinate efforts with Student Service Corps to see if they can work together.

**5. Goal: Proactive Walkups**

Action Required: Have all parties’ involved work with the UMPD and PGPD to increase the frequency of proactive walkups, as they are effective in preventing undesired behavior

**6. Goal: Look into Reformatting Neighborhood Watch**

Action Required: Work with current Neighborhood Watch Committee to establish new format, possibly Nation of Neighbors.

**7. Goal: Work with UMD Student Orientation to Include Videos About Living in the City**

Action Required: Include videos made by the office of community engagement into new student orientations. Look into having renters watch before signing their leases.